

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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**FARMERS FROM CHOICE ~ SEEDSMEN FROM  
EXPERIENCE ~ SERVICE FROM KNOWLEDGE**



E.D. Funk (*left*) and P.G. Holden (*right*) inspecting one of the famous inbred strains bred on the Funk Farms, Sept. 1926

**FUNK BROS. SEED CO.**  
**BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

## 25 Years of Corn Breeding

By P. G. HOLDEN

The Funk Brothers Seed Company is the result of the broad vision of the Funk boys, and especially of Eugene Funk.

Twenty-five years ago "Gene" Funk told me of his desire to do something that would be of distinct service not only to the people of that generation but to the people of all generations that would follow. He felt, and I felt, that he could perform no greater or more lasting service than to do what the Funk Brothers were so excellently equipped to do, what no individual farmer could do for lack of facilities, time and opportunity, and yet what was so badly needed throughout the Corn Belt—the breeding and propagation of disease-free and high-germinating seed corn.

It was a stupendous task to which Eugene Funk devoted his life, but because it was of such vital importance to the country, it was a task worthy of the man.

Well do I remember the long days and nights, the weeks and months that "Gene" Funk and I worked together, studying corn and perfecting plans for the carrying out of his gigantic work of human service. It was a job that called for long hours and hard work. It presented many obstacles and was productive of many disappointments. Only men of the courage and the determination of Eugene Funk and his brothers could have succeeded.

During all these 25 years I have kept in close touch with them and with the wonderful progress that has been made, and I can truthfully say that few men have ever given so much of their time and their energy and thought and personal resources to better agricultural conditions as has Eugene Funk.

Year by year the Funk organization, slowly but surely, has developed stronger and more disease resistant strains of corn with the result that when I walked through the fields of seed corn on the Funk Farms in the summer of 1926 I beheld what I had hardly dared to hope ever to see—acre after acre of corn that not only was free of disease but which contained, so far as I was able to discern, not a single barren stalk.

"Nothing human can be considered perfect, perhaps," I said to myself, "but here, indeed, are fields of corn as nearly perfect as human understanding of Nature's laws can make them."

Such corn is not the result of chance. It is the fruit of close study, keen observation, hard work, infinite patience, undaunted determination and a sublime purpose.

By E. D. FUNK

Prof. P. G. Holden, who is now with the International Harvester Co., and whom nearly every corn grower knows was with Funk Bros. Seed Co. when it was incorporated in 1902. His picture on the front cover together with the writer was taken during a visit to the Funk Farms 25 years after the initial inception of the writer's ideas of corn improvement.

The gratification that I get from the result of the past 25 years is the thought that we have been able to surround ourselves with those congenial and loyal associates who have made it possible for all of us to share in not only the pioneer work of corn breeding and corn disease investigation but the building and maintaining of a business reputation in the farm seed business world all of which spells success.

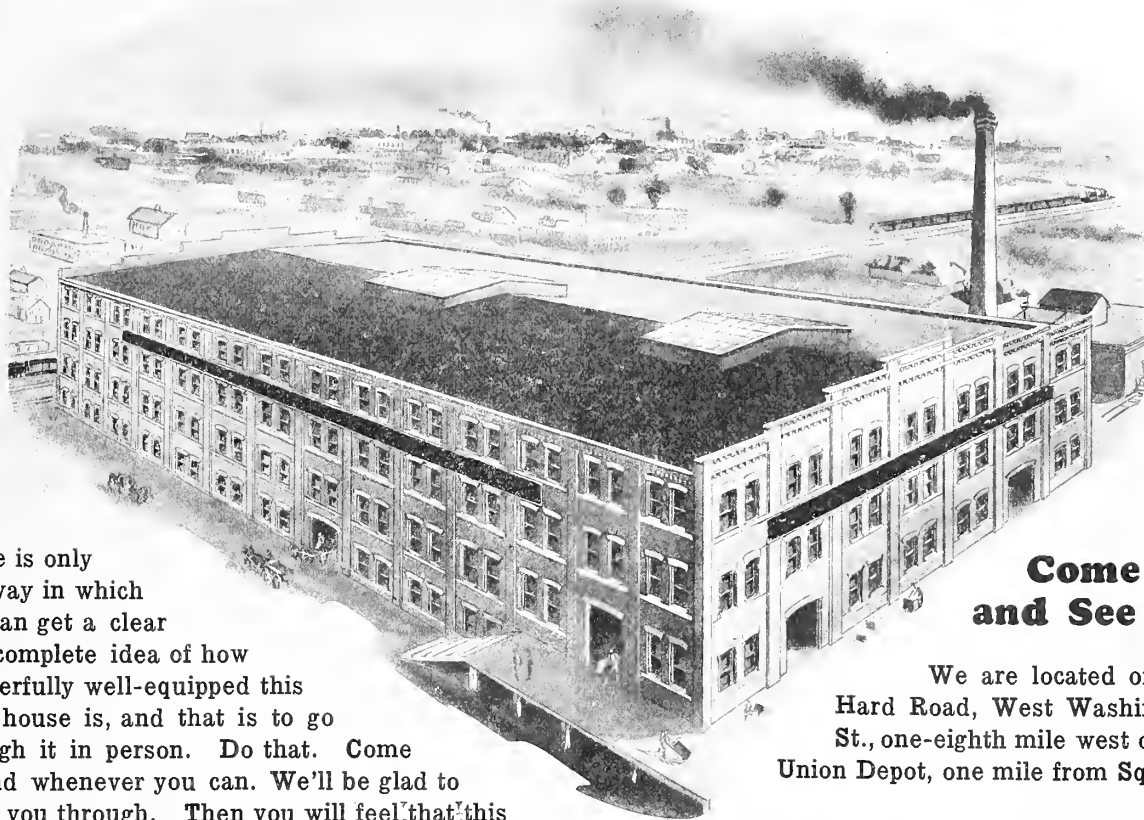
My thoughts go back to the time when A. D. Shamel and C. P. Bull helped me erect on my farm the first silo to feed two carloads of cattle to test silage against shock corn for the Illinois College of Agriculture under Professor Mumford and Professors Norton and Charlie Brand of the U. S. Department of Agriculture were sent here to study and breed oats and red clover and Professor Duvai of the U. S. Grain Inspection Bureau worked out his first moisture testing machine while he was located here for three years and the visit of Professor Hansen of Dakota—the explorer who sent us some alfalfa seed which he had gathered in Northern Siberia; a visit from Dr. DeVrees of Holland, who is considered the greatest plant breeder in the world, all of which was a great help to some of our earlier thoughts in this work; Dr. Webber of the Department of Agriculture at Washington and Dean Davenport, Dr. Hopkins and Dean Henry of Wisconsin and Dean Curtis of Iowa, whose counsel and advice we appraised most highly.

And coming down to later years with our present force of co-laborers—Jim Holbert, of the Agronomy Department—H. H. Miller, General Manager—I. C. Bradley, of the Soy Bean Mill and Soy Bean Seeds—A. C. Funk, in charge of the germinator for testing free of disease corn—and E. D. Funk, Jr., in charge of warehouse and shipping department, and twenty odd more equally hard working individuals each performing their respective places in the organization. It is my privilege and duty to say that the honors belong to all of us and each in turn is proud of the other fellow.

My wish and dream is that Funk Bros. Seed Co. may continue to advance for at least another 25 years equally in importance to American Agriculture as it has been in the past.

# FUNK BROS. SEED CO.

## BLOOMINGTON — ILLINOIS



There is only one way in which you can get a clear and complete idea of how wonderfully well-equipped this seed house is, and that is to go through it in person. Do that. Come around whenever you can. We'll be glad to show you through. Then you will feel that this plant of ours is a real asset to your farm, because

**Come in  
and See Us**

We are located on the Hard Road, West Washington St., one-eighth mile west of the Union Depot, one mile from Square.

**WHAT WE DO FOR YOU WILL BE DONE BETTER  
THAN YOU CAN DO IT YOURSELF.**

*We purchased 45 bushels seed corn from you in 1926. We got very satisfactory results. Seed was as you represented it.—W. C. Ewing & Sons, Hancock County, Ill.*

*Your seed corn was worth the price paid last year.—Hamill R. Graham, Hancock County, Ill.*

*I planted 3 bushels of your seed corn last year. Secured a good stand and a good yield of good quality corn. Nothing in the neighborhood to compare with it.—A. E. Hendrichs, McDonough County, Ill.*

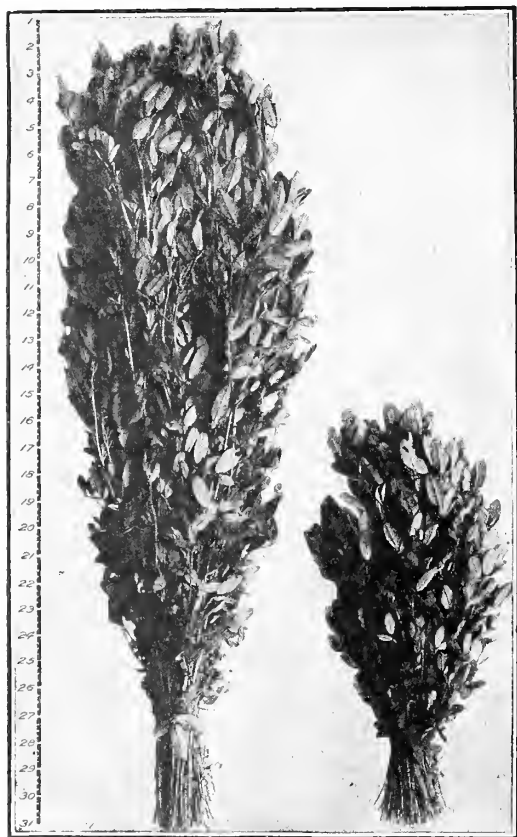
*In regard to the seed corn I purchased from you, I had a perfect stand. I had two other kinds of corn which I planted but Funk's was far better matured, earlier and heavier.—Chas. Irle, Champaign County, Ill.*

*I was well pleased with my corn. I got 85 bushels to the acre and it was a fair quality for this year. It was the best corn I had.—O. F. Perry, Hancock County, Ill.*

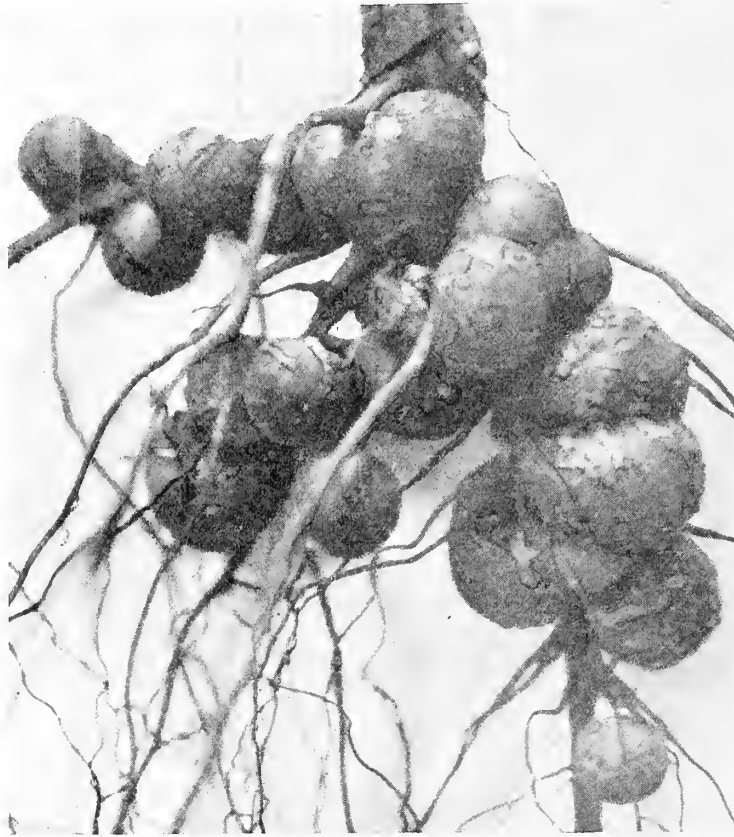
*The seed corn which I purchased during the past year was O. K. The price seemed high but it proved to be a good investment. The quality is good.—Jas. J. Roth, Mercer County, Ill.*

*We are more than pleased with the yields and the quality of the Disease Free corn grown from seed we purchased for the several farms last year. From this corn we are getting a supply of seed for the 1927 crop that is the envy of everyone who sees it. Our boys are very proud of their corn.*

*We have good stands of sweet clover from the clover seed purchased and assure you we appreciate very highly your good seed house.—J. E. Johnson, Champaign County, Ill.*



**SWEET CLOVER**  
Inoculated      Not Inoculated



**SOY BEAN ROOT, Inoculated**

## INOCULATION

Both samples of Sweet Clover grown on same soil—planted same time—soil limed, ideal conditions.

### Soy Beans

The fertilizing value of soy bean nodules is estimated from five to ten dollars per acre. The crop is often affected as much as sweet clover shown above.

### Inoculation

With the low price of inoculation we are convinced that every farmer should inoculate every bushel of sweet clover—red clover—alfalfa—soy beans that he plants unless sure the conditions of the soil are ideal and carry an abundance of bacteria.

The cost of inoculation averages from 10 cents to 20 cents per acre—almost nothing when we consider the fertilizing value of well developed nodules at \$5.00 to \$10.00 per acre.

### Improves Quality and Feeding Value

Inoculation improves the quality and the feeding value says Professor Carroll of the College of Agri-

culture of Illinois. "Inoculation of legumes is highly profitable in about 95 out of 100 cases when properly done." "This practice of inoculating either the seed or the soil with proper root nodule bacteria at the time of planting the seed may markedly improve the quality of leguminous crops largely by increasing both the palatability and the percentage of protein in the plants," he said.

### Reduced Prices for Clovers and Alfalfa

½ bushel size treats 30 pounds of seed.....	\$0.45
1 bushel size treats 60 pounds of seed.....	.75

### For Soy Beans, Cow Peas, Field Peas and Vetches

1 bushel size to treat 60 pounds seed.....	\$0.50
5 bushel size treats 300 pounds seed.....	1.75
Parcel Post Paid	

Be sure and name the kind of seed you desire to inoculate. Full directions with every culture. Simple as A, B, C to apply.

Use cultures proven "Best by Test" on Funk Farms.

# Funk's Par-Post Disease Free Seed Corn Testing Service

## Simple as A. B. C.

Two cents per ear where you send the corn to us in envelopes which we furnish. Plan copyrighted 1925—Simple as A, B, C—No chance for mix up.

Two and a half cents per ear where the corn is delivered in the ear.

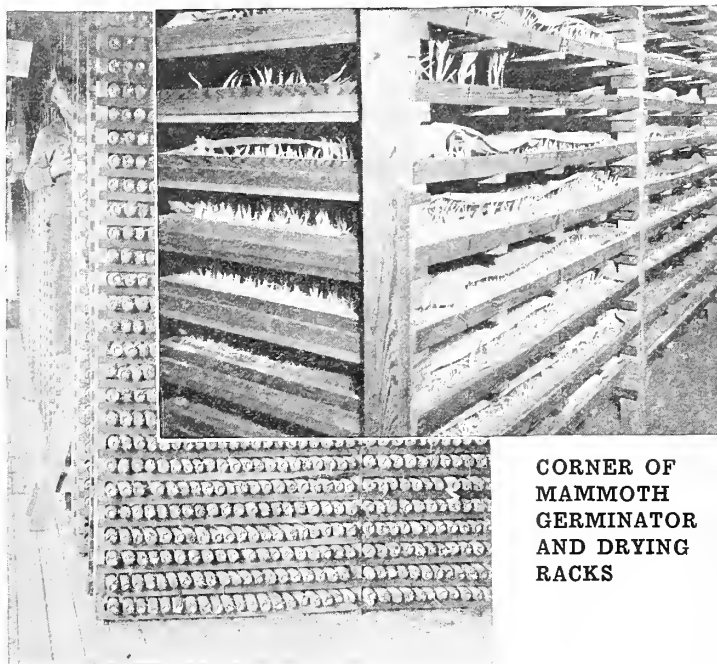
Funk's originated seed corn testing for Vigor and Freedom from Disease. We blazed the way. We have thousands of followers. We congratulate those who render real service to the farmer.

**EXPERIENCE COUNTS**—Pioneering costs money, but it has its compensation. Knowledge comes from experience. Unless your corn is tested by someone who can recognize disease you may as well use the old jack knife method and guess at it. **DIRECTIONS for using**

**FUNK'S PAR-POST seed**



**SUGGESTED METHOD OF STORING CORN AFTER KERNELS ARE REMOVED WHERE RACKS ARE NOT AVAILABLE**



**CORNER OF  
MAMMOTH  
GERMINATOR  
AND DRYING  
RACKS**

corn testing plan will be sent **FREE UPON REQUEST**. It is a simple plan. You can keep your corn at home. Those who have tried the plan like it. One farmer is sending over 17,000 ears to be tested this way. Two cents per ear means only a few cents per acre to insure a yield of several extra bushels per acre according to the experience of hundreds of farmers. You can't afford not to test. Now is the time to get your seed corn ready to plant.

Corn is our greatest cash crop. Disease cuts yield 10% to 50%.

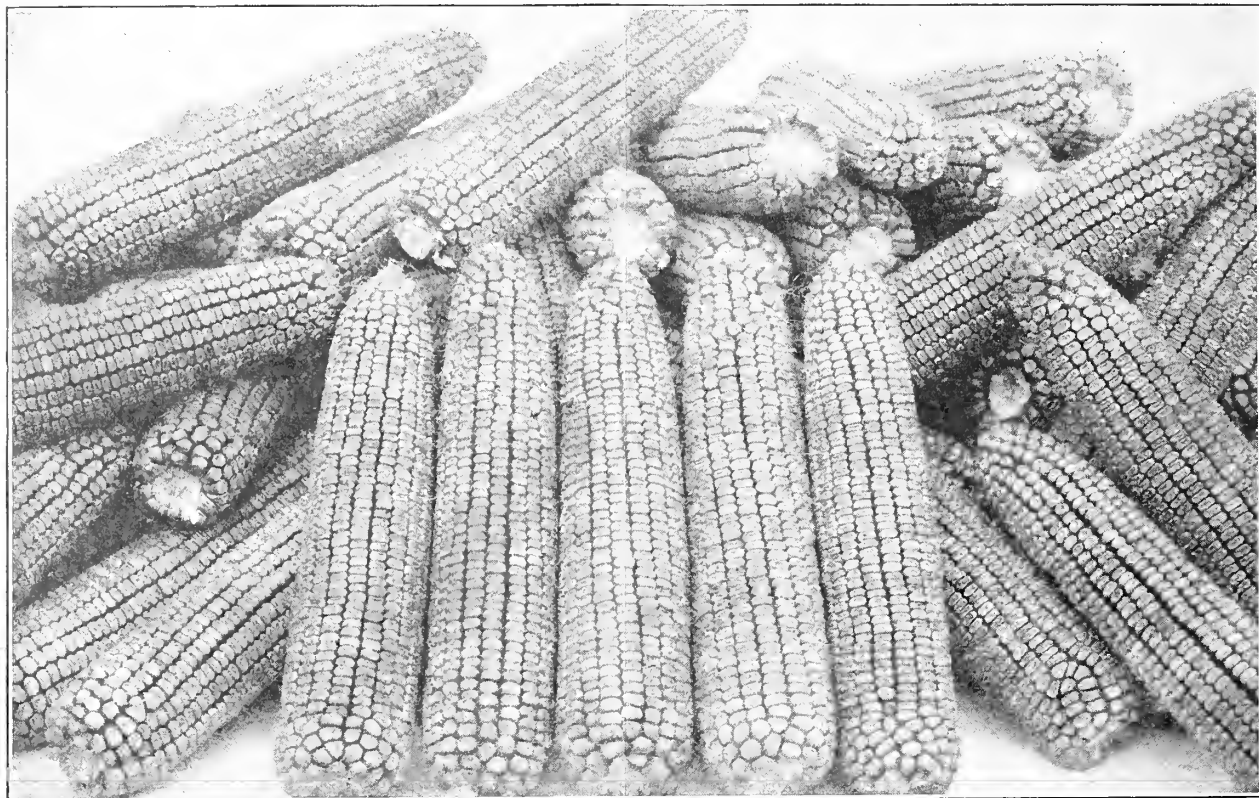
It has taken years of hard work, study and experience to qualify ourselves to serve farmers. See us, write or phone for special instructions.

Funk Bros. Seed Co.

I wish to have..... ears of corn tested for Vigor and Freedom from Disease at.....cents per ear. Will send corn in the ear....., kernels in envelopes..... Send Funk's Par-Post Seed Testing Plan and..... hundred envelopes.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....



UTILITY TYPE—GROWN ON THE FUNK FARMS

## Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A

Funk's Yellow Dent, STRAIN 176A, is the original UTILITY TYPE corn. Our original strain was secured direct from Mr. J. L. Reid in 1902 by E. D. Funk.

Since that time it has gone through many changes of type, ranging from the original smooth to the extreme rough in 1915. Beginning with that date, Funk Bros. Seed Co. began the pioneer work on disease resistant corn. It was discovered in testing seed corn for germination moulds appeared on the germinator. Further investigation disclosed the fact that these moulds were some sort of fungus disease causing the roots of the sprouting corn to die. The medium smooth type of corn selected from the extreme rough did not have nearly so much of this root rot as the rougher corn.

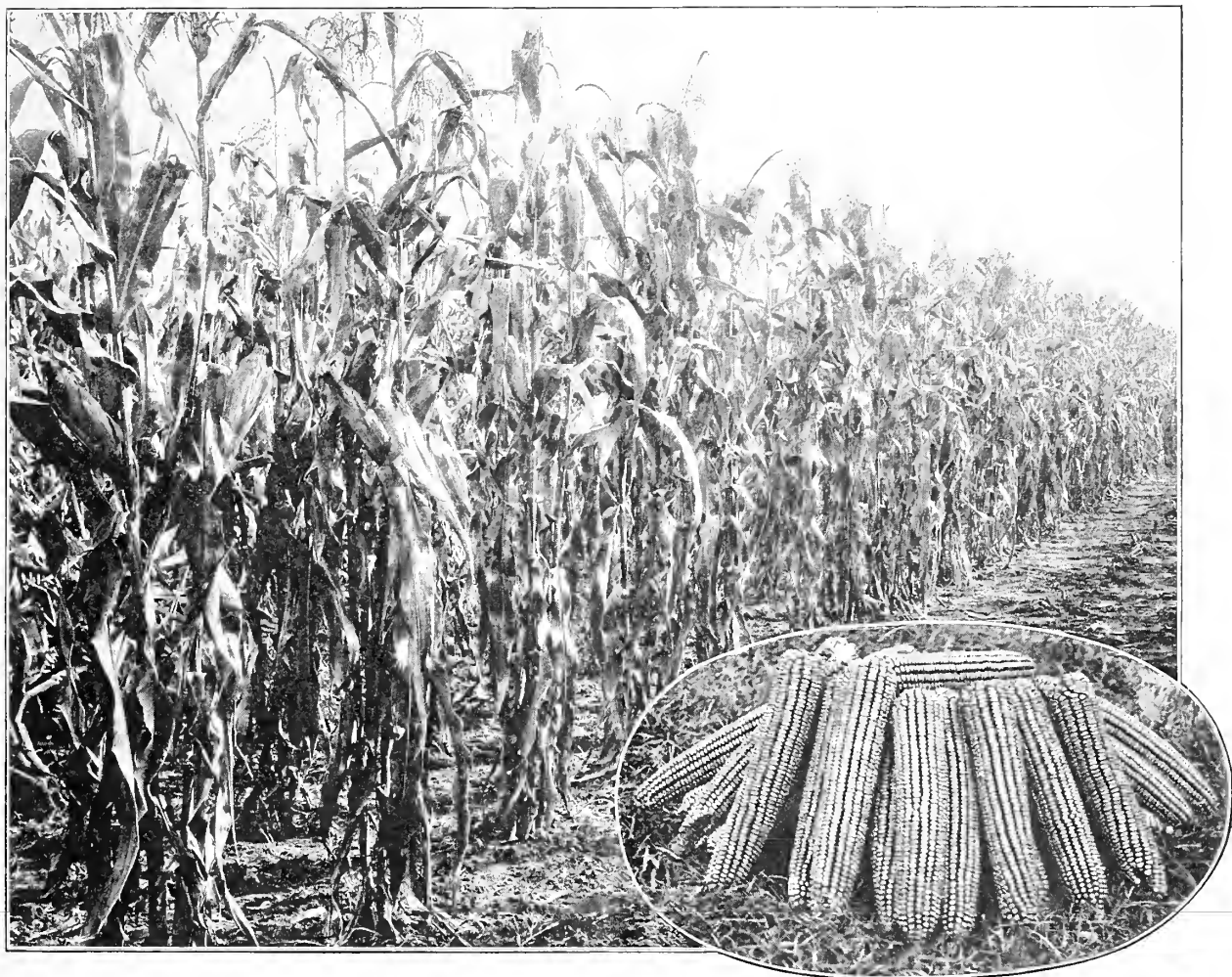
Superior ears selected at that time, which produced clean, hardy, vigorous roots systems, were the origin and foundation of Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A.

Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A, may be described as of a light golden color, which was very characteristic of Mr. Reid's selection. The ears are 8 to 11 inches long, 7 to 8 inches in circumference, 18 to 22 rows of kernels. The cob carries a large amount of corn, shelling 85 to 90 percent kernels and sometimes better.

Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A, is remarkably uniform in appearance. A wagonload of this corn weighs more than a wagonload of any variety of the rougher type.

Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A, is a vigorous grower, stalks average 8 to 12 feet high, of well developed root system and are heavy below the ear, thus producing a stalk that does not blow over or break over easily.

Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A, matures in 115 to 120 days. Matures perfectly under average conditions.



**HIGH YIELDING FUNK'S YELLOW DENT 176 A—GROWN ON THE FUNK FARMS**

Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A, has proven what can be accomplished by real scientific breeding. The percentage of rotten corn of this variety is consistently lower than average corn grown in the same field.

Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A, has stood the

test. It weighs heavy in the scales and produces a high percentage of sound seed. It is the Corn Belt's leading **UTILITY TYPE** corn.

The quality of our seed this year is excellent. It was all produced from seed tested for vigor and freedom from disease.

*I had a good stand with large healthy stalks. It made 61 bushels to an acre and is the best quality I have seen this winter.—C. E. Coultas, Bloomington, Ill.*

*The seed corn which I have purchased of you is the best grade and heaviest corn I ever weighed. Was sure pleased with the seed I have bought of you.—Frank Schweighart, Tuscola, Ill.*

*I had very good luck with your seeds ordered through the McDonough County Farm Bureau last year. The yield of the disease free corn was exceptionally good as compared with other seed.—M. C. Banks, Colchester, Ill.*

*The corn turned out better than expected.—E. C. Dahwill, Sheridan, Ill.*

*I had good success with the corn. It made 77 bushels per acre.—C. H. Wolfe, Clay County, Clay City, Ind.*

*The corn I purchased from you last spring was good enough to get a ribbon at the Coles County Fair and will say it was a good investment. Your corn has always proved to be the best I can secure.—Harry Stater, Kansas, Ill.*

## Funk's 90 Day

Funk's 90 Day is an Early Yellow Dent variety with deep, oily grain and small cob. It is especially recommended for the first planting (for early feed, etc.)

The Funk's 90 Day we are offering this year is from a new selection which is being placed on the market for the first time. It has been bred for freedom of disease. Strong stalk. Abundant root development.

For those who desire a corn that will mature early, producing a profitable yield combined with unusual feeding value, we consider Funk's 90 Day has no equal. We regret that our supply is limited—order early.

Our years of experience in agriculture have taught us that it is not a question of how much may be saved by using cheap seed, but rather how much may be produced per acre by using good seed and plants of the highest productive power. No man who grows crops can afford to do other than make his acreage yield the best.

## Silvermine

Funk's Silvermine is a vigorous, thrifty, perfectly maturing strain of Iowa Silvermine. It produces a good sized stalk, stands up well and is capable of making a better yield on thin land than some of the later maturing varieties of white corn.

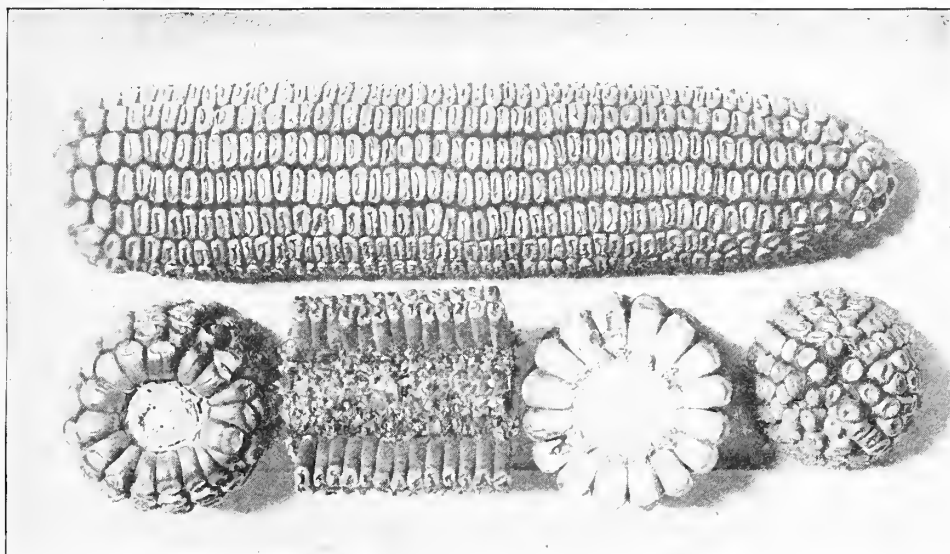
Corn breeding and the wide distribution of good seed is the work of a lifetime—many lifetimes. It is the finding, preserving and multiplying of superior blood in seed corn, thus increasing the production and profit of every acre planted with that seed.

Thousands of our customers who have grown our corn in the past have reported that it increased their yields an average of 10 to 15 bushels per acre.



FUNKS 90 DAY





## Funk's 329

Funk's 329 Yellow Dent is a selection from our Funk's 90 Day Strain. We call it our 100 Day Corn. The ears are larger than those of the regular 90 Day but not quite so large as Funk's Yellow Dent, Strain 176A.

Funk's 329 Yellow Dent has all the desirable characteristics of 90 Day, including a deep, oily grain with small cob. It will pay every farmer to grow a few acres of this to feed his own stock.

One bushel of this corn, matured up in good shape, is worth two bushels of some of the later, starchy varieties that carry high moisture content and usually have a larger percent of damaged ears.

Funk's 329 has a special appeal to dairymen, as they have increased the milk production of their cows by feeding the Funk's 329 Corn in their silage as well as dairy rations.

Funk's 329 produces strong vigorous stalks which are medium in height and a sturdy root system and is not easily blown down. Funk's 329 is a consistent high yielder on the Funk Farms, usually averaging better than 70 bushels per acre. Appreciating the value of this variety, we have selected a larger quantity of seed this year than usual, as we feel there will be a real demand for an early maturing variety of corn that will produce a good yield of sound seed.

## Gold Standard Leaming

Funk's Gold Standard Leaming is distinctly a silage and feeding corn. The ears are medium to large in size and have a rich golden color which is

characteristic of this variety. It is the favorite of feeders and matures in 120 days.

*Good—yes. The yield was better than my selection, not so much damaged corn. Got a splendid stand of clover.—P. J. Gates, Tuscola, Ill.*

*I purchased seed corn and soy beans from you last spring and was very well satisfied. I have bought seed from you several times over a number of years and have always been satisfied.—A. C. Lachmann, Wever, Iowa.*

*The corn that I got for seed grew 100 per cent by the stand that I got. The 329 that we got matured fine and made a yield of 60 bushels. The Funk Yellow Dent made about 75 bushels but did not mature as good as the early, but no soft corn. Am more than satisfied.—O. H. Ryan, Tonica, Ill.*

*The corn purchased of you last year out yielded own corn at least 10 bushels per acre; was very well satisfied.—Wm. Ringhouse, Ill.*

## Will County Favorite

To Mr. Wm. Webb, Plainfield, Illinois, belongs the credit of originating Will County Favorite. Beginning in 1900 Mr. Webb combined Golden Yellow, an early variety of corn that he had been working on since 1885 with Western Plowman and Edman's.

Western Plowman at that time was a large late yellow corn with a broad kernel but a good yielder and Edman's corn was a yellow variety, medium early, with a rather small, deep kernel. Mr. Webb spent a good deal of time in producing the present Will County Favorite to conform to the type that he considered best to meet a standard which would be especially adapted to the Northern third or half of Illinois. Will County Favorite has matured in

splendid shape for us in a little less than 100 days and the product this year shows exceptional resistance to disease. It conforms to the Utility Type and has been a consistent high yielder and also prize winner in this and other states.

Our stock was obtained direct from Mr. Wm. Webb in the spring of 1926, averaged better than 70 bushels per acre and as the seed came from Will County the product of this year's crop should be well suited to the Central and Northern portions of the State.

In 1924 Will County Favorite was certified and registered by the Illinois Crop Improvement Association, Mr. William Webb as originator and grower.

## Golden King

Golden King Yellow Dent was originated in Putnam County, Illinois, where we obtained the seed of our present stock in the spring of 1925. We have not grown it here long enough to change length of time required to mature. Golden King matures in about 100 days. It possesses a deep golden color,

relatively small kernels and has stood high in all variety tests in different parts of the state. The limited stock we are offering was grown from especially selected Disease-free seed and is of excellent quality.

## Bloody Butcher

Bloody Butcher is a white-capped red corn which matures in approximately 90 days. Our experience shows that it can be grown successfully anywhere in the Corn Belt.

Bloody Butcher has been grown for a long time on the Funk Farms in fields we expected to "hog down"—and gives splendid satisfaction. If you want an early corn to "hog down", Bloody Butcher will fill the bill exactly. Under average conditions we turn our hogs in on this corn about the 15th or 20th of August.

Good seed tested for vigor and freedom from disease and possessing resistance to disease, makes possible a uniform stand of vigorous, healthy plants.

It takes the first 45 to 55 bushels of every acre of corn to pay the expenses of production. The margin above that will be profit.

It has been our life job to breed into Funk's Utility Type Corn its qualities which you may take advantage of the same season you plant the seed.

*Funk's 329 100-Day Yellow Dent has made good for five years, standing up better than other corn, yielding equally as well as other varieties and of much better quality than the larger varieties. An ideal medium early corn for Cass County, Indiana.—Earl G. Martin, Walton, Ind.*

*I was well pleased with the corn I bought of you—good stand, good yield and a good investment.—J. Luther Ayers, R. 3, McLean County, Ill.*

*I had the best crop in this section, the first ripe and no bad corn.—H. Wrinheimer, R. R. 2, Hillsboro, Ohio.*

*Your Funk's 329 100-Day Dent made an excellent yield—quality was also good. Though not planted until the 9th of June, was the first corn we harvested. Compared with my own seed I think it was the best quality corn I had.—Irvin Thorp, DeWitt County, Ill.*

*We have finished shucking all but about 35 rows of 133 acres planted with your Disease Free seed—quality is good. I am very well pleased and have ordered the same Disease Free seed for 1927.—C. O. Montgomery, Sangamon County, Ill.*

*The corn I purchased from you last spring yielded over 80 bushels per acre.—W. J. Trainor, Livingston County, Blackstone, Ill.*



## BAYER DUST FOR CORN

### Dust Treatment:

One pound treats 6 bushels of shelled corn.

Seed is mixed with dust in a drum, milk can or seed dusting machine for about three minutes. It may be either stored or planted at once.

## BAYER PRODUCTS

include also

**Dipdust** for the treatment of vegetable and flower seeds. Also seed potatoes, bulbs, etc. Superior to corrosive sublimate and formaldehyde.

**Uspulun—Nu-Green** for Brown-Patch of golf greens and for invigorating the weakened grasses.

**Zelio** and **Zelio Wheat** for rodents.

USPULUN or BAYER DUST for CORN, the well-known organic mercury compounds, by destroying seed-borne and soil-infesting organisms, prevent premature rotting of seed in the soil and increase the germination and stand. Growth of young plants is improved, barren and weak stalks eliminated, seedling blights, root and stalk rots are checked, and yield is thereby increased.

USPULUN	
2 oz.....	\$ .50
1 lb.....	2.75
5 lbs.....	13.00

DIPDUST	
4 oz.....	\$ .50
1 lb.....	1.75
5 lbs.....	8.00

BAYER DUST FOR CORN	
4 oz.....	\$ .50
1 lb.....	1.75
5 lbs.....	8.00

ZELIO PASTE	
2 oz.....	\$ .50
8 oz.....	1.50
ZELIO WHEAT	
1 oz.....	\$ .35
1 lb.....	2.00

USPULUN NU-GREEN	
1 lb.....	\$ 2.25
5 lbs.....	10.50
25 lbs.....	50.00

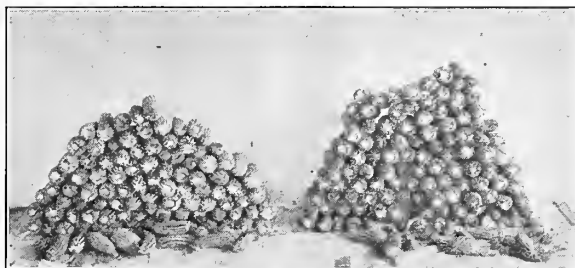
Prices are subject to change without notice.

# Increase Your Corn Yields

by disinfecting your seed with

**BAYER DUST or USPULUN**

at a cost of only 5 to 10 cents per acre



Untreated

Treated

Yields from representative 50-hill plots in 40-acre field. When planting, one planter box held treated seed, while the other held untreated seed throughout the whole field. Field averaged 88 bushels per acre. The treated seed outyielded the untreated seed 8%.

The value of USPULUN and BAYER DUST for CORN has been thoroughly established by the published results of tests by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and State Experiment Stations, and by the experience of thousands of corn growers all over the country, who have adopted seed corn treatment as a regular practice on their farms.



## USPULUN FOR CORN

### Soak Treatment:

One pound treats 6 bushels of shelled corn.

Seed is soaked for one and one-half hours in a cold USPULUN solution. After drying, it may be either stored or planted at once.

## OTHER USES FOR USPULUN

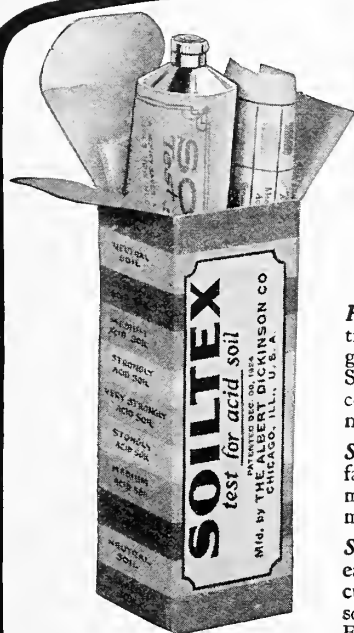
Very effective for the control of:

**Damping-Off** in green-houses, hot beds, etc.

**Crown Gall** of nursery stock.

**Stripe and Covered Smut** of barley.

Other seed-borne and soil-infesting diseases.



For Lawns, Golf Courses, Vegetable and Flower Gardens, SOILTEX provides a simple and economical means of testing the acidity of the soil and determining what treatment it requires.

# SOILTEX

test for acid soil

## Does *Your* Soil Need Lime?

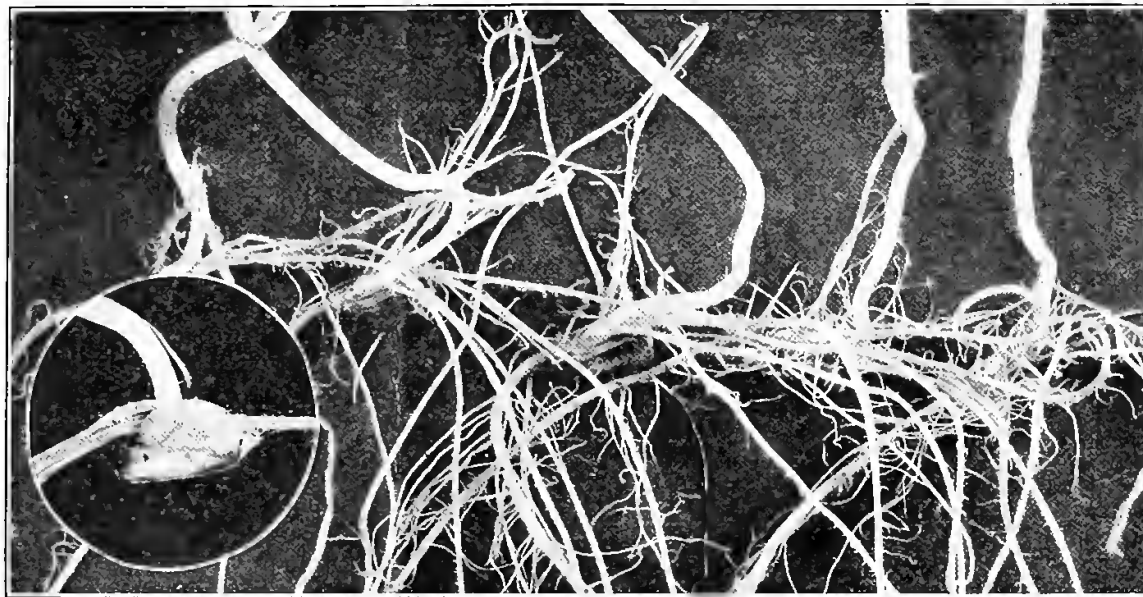
**How Much Does It Need? Will It Pay?** "Lime, Legumes and Inoculation"—this has come to be the slogan of the progressive farmer who wants to grow better crops and increase the fertility of his farm. Alfalfa, Red Clover, Sweet Clover, all require lime. Most other crops are benefited by it. Lime corrects acidity, sets free plant-food, improves the texture of the soil, and is necessary to the activity of nitrogen-gathering bacteria.

**Save Money by Testing Your Soil**—To apply less lime than is required, or to fail to apply it when needed, means loss of fertility and poorer crops. To apply more lime than your soil needs is wasting labor and money. Either way, you save money by testing your soil and knowing exactly what treatment it requires.

**SOILTEX Tells What Your Soil Needs**—With Soiltex, a new quick, easy and accurate soil testing method developed at the Michigan State Agricultural College, you can determine exactly in a few minutes whether your soil is acid, and how much lime it needs. Each outfit will make 75 to 100 tests. Full directions, color chart and lime table included. No special knowledge or equipment required. Costs less than 2 cents per sample tested. Soiltex will save you money.

**SOILTEX** Pocket-size Soil Testing Outfit, with color chart and lime table . postpaid **\$1.00**



**GOOD SEED**

Strong Sprouts—plenty of roots—no disease. Good Seed—Good Farming. A Good Crop

**POOR SEED**

Weak sprouts—few roots—disease. Poor Seed—Good Farming. A Poor Crop

**Which would you rather Plant? Which would you rather Shuck in November and December, and finally, which crop could you FEED or MARKET to the BEST advantage?**

FUNK'S "Disease-Free" seed, tested for vigor and freedom from disease, had to make good on our own farms before it was first offered to the public in 1920. Since that time it has given unparalleled satisfaction all over the Corn Belt. Hundreds of enthusiastic customers declare it is the cheapest seed they have ever planted and continue to come back year after year to get the benefit of our improved strains.

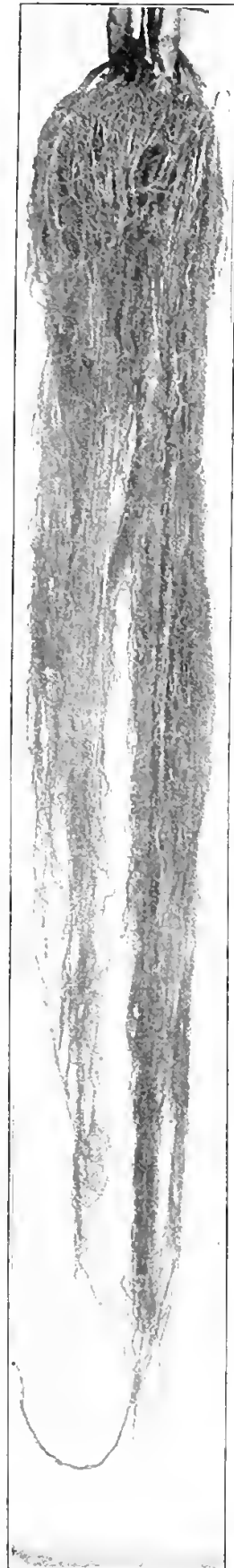
But back of this quality seed are years of breeding and a knowledge of how to conduct the germination test. And back of all that is the reputation



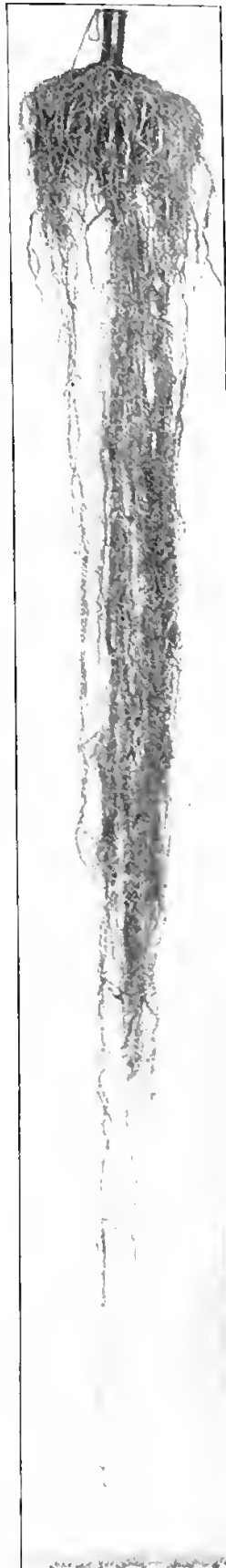
of a well-established firm that has always stood for the betterment of agriculture and honesty in business dealing.

Disease-free seed is better than diseased seed of the same strain of corn. But disease-free seed of a poorly bred and poorly selected strain may still be very inferior seed because it will produce a crop that may fall down, break over, and rot in the field. The seed may have been viable, vigorous in germination, and even free from disease, but the resulting plants were not bred to send their roots deep into the soil, to produce a strong stalk, and to mature a high yield of sound corn. Poor seed is too expensive to plant. No one that expects to keep out of the "marginal" class can afford to use poor seed corn.

**FUNK'S DISEASE-FREE SEED IS BRED RIGHT and TESTED RIGHT  
IT WILL NOT DISAPPOINT YOU . . . IT MAKES GOOD**



DISEASE FREE ROOTS



DISEASED ROOTS



CUTTING ALFALFA SPELLS PROSPERITY

## Alfalfa

"Alfalfa on every farm" is no idle slogan. For one thing, it is a sure sign of good farming and an excellent indication of good land and the rank foliage in itself smacks of prosperity. Many farmers will use Alfalfa in place of clover this year at the difference in price as a two year rotation crop. Think it over.

Alfalfa is a great cash crop. On an average, alfalfa will produce six times as much protein as timothy, four times as much as mixed hay and twice as much as clover and equally as much protein as wheat bran. Alfalfa will furnish good pasturage for all kinds of stock the second season. It begins growth early and pigs weighing 30 to 60 pounds in the spring often make a gain of 100 pounds during the season on alfalfa alone. One acre of alfalfa should support 20 pigs.

Alfalfa and corn are one of the best combinations any farmer can grow to produce pork at a profit. To grow alfalfa successfully—first select a piece of ground that is fertile and well drained; find out if it needs lime. Test your soil with Soiltest. See page 11.

Never plow lime under. Apply on top of the freshly plowed or otherwise prepared land, and harrow.

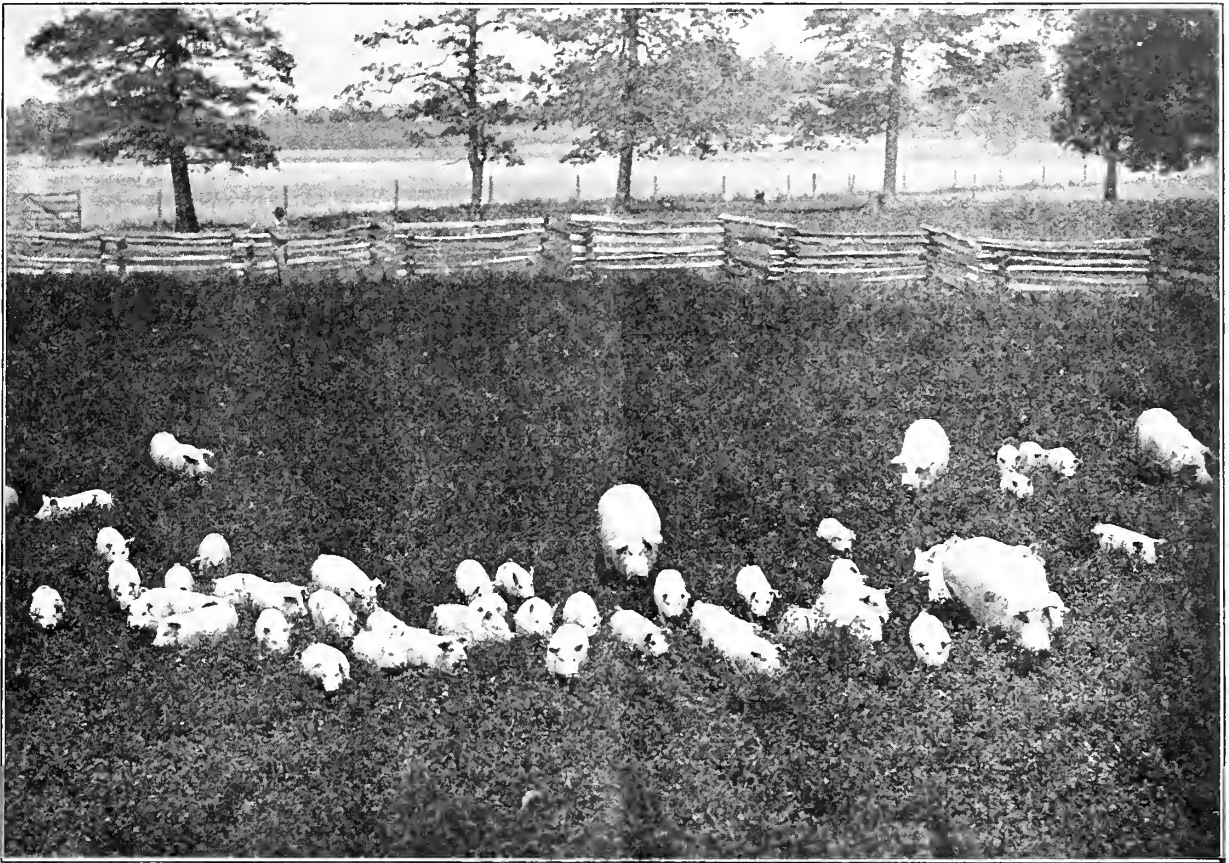
### Varieties of Alfalfa

The principal stocks of common alfalfa suitable to the Corn Belt are produced in the Northwestern states. Kansas seed has also given a good account of itself. More seed, however, is being produced in the Northwest and the demand is increasing for Northwestern Dry Land Alfalfa seed.

We have a splendid stock of 99.6 % to 99.8% pure seed this season and prices are very reasonable.

### Canadian Variegated Alfalfa

We have been calling this strain Canadian Variegated (Grimm Type) because it explains in a brief way the character of this strain of seed. We have grown Canadian Variegated Alfalfa on the Funk Farms also in our Experimental plots and cannot see any difference in the character of growth or hardness between it and the regular Grimm.



**PIGS THRIVE ON ALFALFA. NO FARM COMPLETE WITHOUT THIS GREAT GENERAL PURPOSE CROP.**

We quote from a reliable Canadian authority as follows:

"At the present time we can get no Government experts to distinguish or pick out for us fields of Grimm from genuine Ontario Variegated. So far as we know there is absolutely no difference in root systems, stems, leaves, blossom or hardiness between the Grimm and Ontario Variegated, both belong to the Variegated Type, so that Ontario Variegated can certainly be classed as Grimm Type.

"In New York State experiments Ontario Variegated excelled every other kind of Alfalfa, including Grimm, Baltic, etc."

Funk Brothers are using this seed almost exclusively on their own farms and it has been giving universal satisfaction throughout the Corn Belt for several years. Many fields in Ontario have been seeded

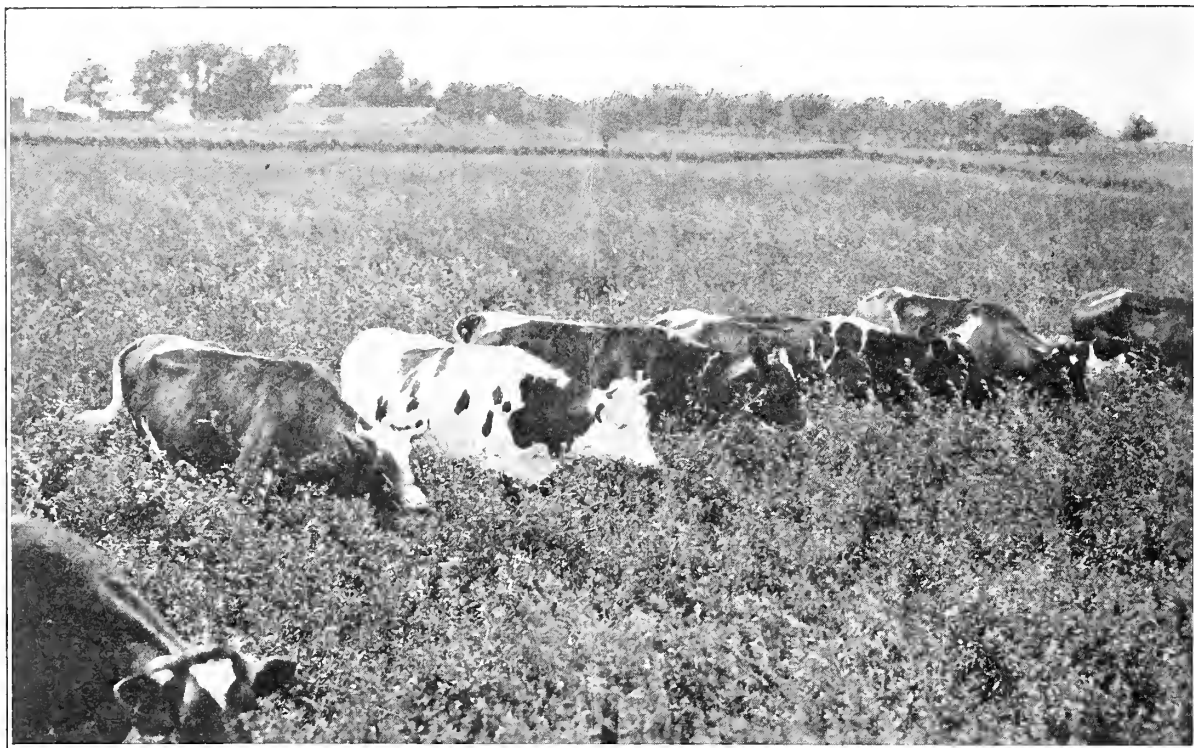
down ten to twenty years, indicating the hardiness of this strain of alfalfa.

### **Genuine Grimm—Dakota No. 12**

Genuine Grimm and Dakota No. 12 are also good reliable strains and do not require detailed description. We always aim to have an ample supply of all these hardy varieties of alfalfa in stock. There is always a lot of work and expense in getting a field in condition to grow alfalfa successfully but the labor, seed and money may all be thrown away if you do not plant hardy adaptable seed.

We can furnish the genuine Grimm at a reasonable price but we think Canadian Variegated is a better buy for the money.

If you have had good success with Kansas seed, why not continue to plant it? Hardy Northwestern, however, is our first choice if you are going to use common alfalfa seed.



HOLSTEIN CATTLE ON SWEET CLOVER PASTURE. ALL STOCK LEARN TO LIKE IT.

## Sweet Clover

Sweet Clover may be truly called the friend of the farmer. This crop has done more to increase the fertility of Illinois soil during the past ten years than all other legume crops combined. The principal reason for this is due to the fact that such a large percent of this crop is plowed under each year. The price of sweet clover this season is moderate compared with Red and Alsike and we believe a large acreage will be seeded. There is a fair supply of good sweet clover seed available but we think it will pay you to buy early. We have been growing sweet clover on the Funk Farms for about twenty years. It has been our experience that it is the best pasture crop for cattle or any other class of livestock that we have grown. Blue Grass, of course, makes fine pasture but the amount of pasturage secured from sweet clover during late July and August when Kentucky Blue Grass is practically dormant is a great advantage.

Our sweet clover is seeded in the early spring with oats, barley or wheat at the rate of 12 to 15 pounds

of scarified seed per acre. It is frequently cut for hay or used for pasture the first season, depending upon its growth.

Sweet Clover takes the same inoculation as alfalfa. If, however, neither sweet clover nor alfalfa have been grown successfully on the field, artificial inoculation should be made. As a matter of fact, we believe only under unusually favorable conditions will it pay to sow sweet clover without inoculation. The cost is so slight and the results so profitable that it always pays.

In buying sweet clover seed, we suggest the same caution as with other seeds. To quote the New York Experiment Station, we say "beware of bargain seeds." They caution against "bargain advertisements". The buyer is advised to order only from seed houses he knows to be reputable. They found 91 different species of weed seeds in a small sample of bargain sweet clover, including dodder, mustard, thistle and quack grass.

After all, you will usually get what you pay for. If you buy seeds cheap, the chances are 100% that you will get cheap seed.

Don't be misled in your purchases of seed by a recommendation of low price.

## Grundy County White Blossom Sweet Clover

Grundy County Sweet Clover is a white blossom variety originated in Grundy County, located in the Northern section of Illinois. It is a biennial, the same as the other varieties of sweet clover—grows to a height of about four feet and never to our knowledge has been known to winter kill.

Grundy County Sweet Clover makes very good hay, as it sends out many fine leafy branches which

are greatly relished and readily cleaned up by all classes of live stock.

It ripens about two to three weeks ahead of the common white-blossom sweet clover and does not require clipping—thereby eliminating the hazard of killing.

Grundy County is a fine combination of a soil builder, hay or pasture crop. We recommend seed-ing at the rate of 15 pounds per acre.

**Read Page 4—Inoculated—Not Inoculated**

**Test Your Soil with Soiltex Read Page 11**



**AN ALL AROUND, PROFITABLE, FULLY EQUIPPED SWEET CLOVER HOG PASTURE.  
MODERN BUILDINGS IN BACKGROUND.**

*I was well pleased with the seed corn I purchased of you in 1926. Every grain grew and the corn matured early, making a good yield.—George F. Frantz, R. 2, Ladoga, Ind.*

*The only seed I purchased from you was seed corn which was very satisfactory; produced 78 bushels to the acre.—S. O. Spring, 10 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Ill.*

*The seed corn yielded very well, about 60 bushels to the acre. It was Funk's 90 Day.—Aura Johnston, Hudson, Ill.*

*I purchased two bushels of disease free corn last spring through the local farm bureau. Was well pleased with results.—W. R. Clawson, Vermont, Ill.*

*I had very good luck with Alsike Sweet Clover; also with Soy Beans.—C. H. Whitesell, Bloomington, Ill.*

*Sweet Clover seed gave good stand, so did Soy Beans.—J. F. Ziegler, DeWitt County, Clinton, Ill.*

### TERMS OF SALE

**Cash with order or C. O. D. and subject to inspection.**

*Funk Bros. Seed Company gives no warranty, either express or implied, as to description, quality, productiveness or any other matter, of seeds, bulbs or plants they send out, and will not be in any way responsible for the crop. If purchaser does not accept the goods on these terms, they are at once to be returned and any money that may have been paid for them will be refunded.*

*We exercise our very best judgment and experience in selecting and caring for seeds we sell, but crops are dependent upon so many conditions over which we have no control that we cannot be held responsible for crop failure of any kind.*

*That we do not offer any seed to our customers we would not plant on our own farms is the best guarantee of quality we can advance.*

## Red Clover

Red Clover has been a true friend of the farmer ever since the Corn Belt was discovered. In the early days little difficulty was experienced in securing a stand. This was due to the fact that land was fertile and continuous cropping had not exhausted the necessary elements required to produce a satisfactory stand.

Today Red Clover seems just a little choicy about its place of growth. Many failures are due to lack of lime and humus and these conditions should be corrected if you expect to secure a satisfactory stand.

We have a very nice stock of Home Grown and Wisconsin grown Red Clover. You may be able to buy elsewhere at a little cheaper price but the chances are the quality is not up to Funk's standard.

## Rape

Rape seeded with oats provides summer pasture in place of foul weeds. Rape is good for hogs, sheep, cattle, calves and horses. Rape may be grown alone or with small grain or between corn rows at last cultivation.

The seed is cheap and we recommend the broad leaved variety which we have been growing on the Funk Farms for a good many years and has proven its value.

## Red Top

This is one of the best grasses we know of to seed poorly drained land. It makes good pasture and as the price is very reasonable this year, suggest that you try it out on your low spots. You will be surprised how it will catch, and what it will produce on land which you may now consider practically worthless. Be sure and order a few pounds this year and give it a trial.

## Millet

It is easy to obtain a good stand of Millet either by using a grain drill or broadcasting at the rate of 30 to 40 pounds of seed per acre. German or Golden Millet produces a larger yield of hay and we recommend these varieties for average Corn Belt conditions.

## Oats

The past year has been a bad season for saving good seed but we are starting out with some nice stock of the following varieties: Funk's Great American, Big Four, Silvermine, Iowa 103, Iowar, and Minota. If you desire information on any of these varieties please write us.

## Alsike

Alsike Clover has a distinct place on many farms. Where your land is not well drained or is acid, Alsike thrives. Alsike is almost invaluable in every hay and pasture mixture. The excellent quality of the hay, the fact that it makes such splendid pasturage and is a hardy perennial are important points to consider in deciding whether to sow Alsike.

Always send to us for samples and latest quotations.

## Kentucky Blue Grass

We have the best Kentucky Blue Grass this season that we have offered in years. It is bright, heavy and reasonable in price. If you need some Kentucky Blue Grass for your lawn, or to renew your pasture, or to include in a pasture mixture, this is a good year to buy it. This seed has been officially tested and was found absolutely free from noxious weed seed. It is wonderful stock for lawns, golf mixtures, etc.

## Barley

Barley yields about 35 to 40 bushels per acre under average conditions in Central Illinois. It requires about the same seasonal conditions as oats and it should be sown the same way at the rate of a bushel and a peck to a bushel and a half per acre. It weighs 48 pounds per bushel. There is no better nurse crop for alfalfa and clover than barley.

## Spring Wheat

We will continue to handle No. 1 Dark Hard Marquis Spring Wheat the same as in the past. We secure our seed from the Northwest as it matures several days earlier than home grown stock. This may mean the difference between success and failure in the crop, as it is usually the last few days when wheat is maturing that decide the yield.

## Sudan Grass

Sudan Grass belongs to the Sorghum family. It was secured from Khartum, Sudan, in 1909. It seems to be adapted to any soil and most climates. It will produce two cuttings of hay the same year and under certain conditions may be cut the third time. The yield averages three to five tons per acre and stock eat it in preference to almost any other kind of hay. It is a success for a pasture crop. It makes a sure summer pasture within thirty days. Best growth is secured in hot dry weather when other pastures fail.

where this occurs the most desirable will predominate.

Our mixtures are composed of red clover, alfalfa, alsike clover, white clover, timothy, Kentucky blue grass, red top, rye grass. The proportions used depend somewhat upon the soil conditions. If the land is poorly drained and sour or inclined to be thin we increase the proportion of seed suited for such conditions. On fertile, well drained, sweet soil all these combinations would give good results.

If interested please advise acreage you expect to seed and condition of soil. These mixtures are reasonable in price.

Courtesy between neighbors—the desire to do one a favor and in return have a favor done—does much to create good will, doesn't it?

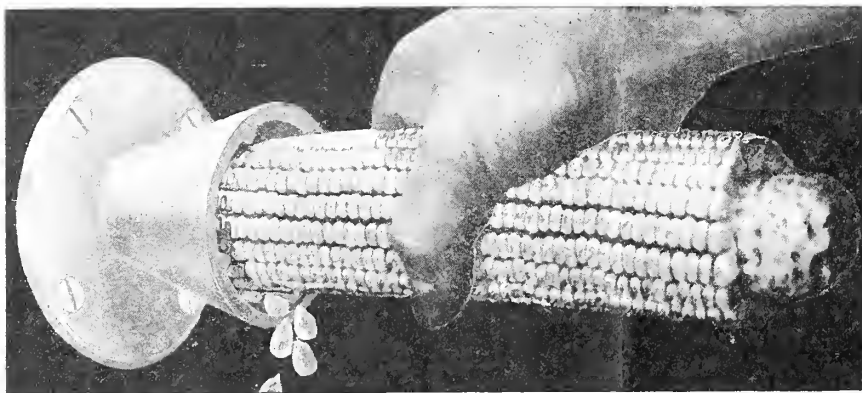
If you will spare us a few minutes time and fill in below the name and addresses of some good farmers who might be interested in our catalog we assure you that this courtesy will be very much appreciated. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

**FUNK BROS. SEED COMPANY,  
BLOOMINGTON, ILL.**

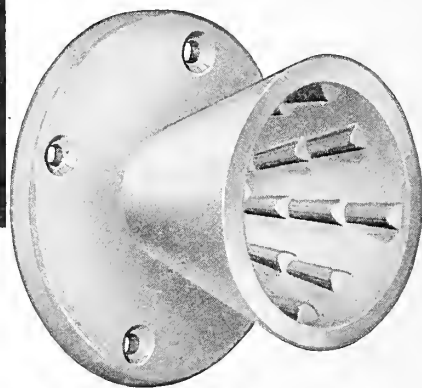
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Name of Friend Sending List

**P. O. Address**



## For Butting and Tipping the Ears



# Funk's Improved Nubber

Here's one of the handiest little devices ever made for the corn grower. Serves the same purpose as the power nubbers used by big seed corn houses. It practically eliminates the most tedious and most tiresome job of getting corn ready for planting—butting and tipping the ears.

Simply place the end of the ear in the nubber, give it about a half turn and all uneven kernels are removed. Quickly shells off as much of butts and

tips as desired. Attaches to wall or most convenient place with 4 wood screws.

Every corn grower needs it. Guaranteed to satisfy or your money back. Order yours today. Price only \$1.25 postpaid.

Funk's Improved Nubber is practically indestructible; will last a lifetime. Handsome nickel plated velvet finish and special hardened teeth. Packed in carton complete with screws for attaching.

*I bought my Alfalfa and Sweet Clover seed from you last year Both very satisfactory.—W. E. Angell, Aurora, Ill.*

*I sowed some of your Grimm type Alfalfa seed and certainly got a fine stand. Had I supposed I would get such a splendid stand the patch would have been much larger.—W. H. Dixon, Ambia, Ind.*

*The Alfalfa we bought from you in the fall of 1925 got a good stand and is looking good.—J. N. Rever, R. R. 2, Box 33, Pana, Ill.*

*The seed corn I bought from you did exceptionally well this summer. The corn is of good quality, also the Variegated Alfalfa seed was very good. Have an excellent stand by sowing it in winter wheat.—Edward A. Heideman, Macoupin County, Brighton, Ill.*

*The seed I purchased from you last year proved very satisfactory; in fact so satisfactory that I have already bought clover seed for 1927. Also got alfalfa seed last year which gave me an excellent stand.—C. E. Armstrong, El Paso, Ill.*

*I have used your Ontario Alfalfa seed. Seed good. Good stand where I fulfilled all requirements.—H. S. Linke, Columbia, Ind.*

*Have a fine stand of Alfalfa from seed secured from you. In fact about the best in the county according to Advisor Hay.—R. D. Taylor, Christian County, Palmer, Ill.*

*The Alfalfa seed I bought was good. Have a fine stand.—H. H. Wagner, McLean County, Downs, Ill.*

*Secured a perfect stand of Canadian Grimm from seed purchased of you last fall.—F. A. Genteman, O'Fallon, Mo.*

# QUICK REMOVAL of SURFACE WATER WITH Funk's Field and Road Drain

[PATENTED]

**T**HIS drain provides for the immediate removal of surface waters from fields and roads. For years it has demonstrated its efficiency on the Funk Farms in McLean County, Illinois, where scientific farming methods are studied and worked out.

The advantage of this drain is that it catches all surface water and diverts it directly into the tile. Water does not take days to seep into the tile; it flows in immediately. The use of the Funk Field and Road Drain reclaims your most fertile lands. Water cannot stand on alfalfa or wheat land. The Drain prevents the forming of mud holes in roads.

The Funk Drain is connected directly with the tiling in any field or road by one man in an hour's time. Patents cover the non-clogging, non-freezing and all other essential features.

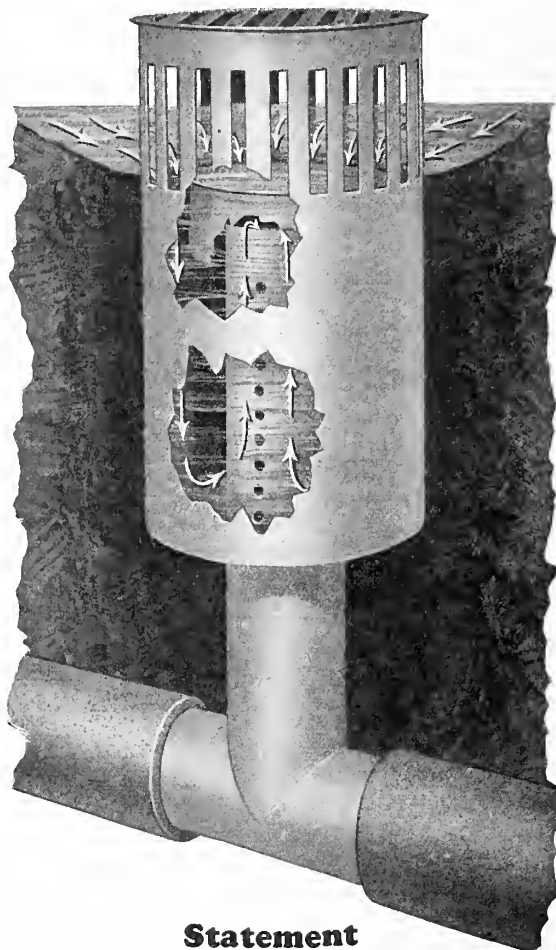
Pays for itself many times the first year of service by insuring crops on lands that otherwise would be unproductive. Removes surface water in all seasons even when ground is frozen. It insures flushing of drain tile and materially increases its capacity.

Lose no more time and money on lands or roads subject to overflow but install Funk's Field and Road Drain and stop worrying.

Standard Sizes for 4, 5 and 6 Inch Tile.

Price: Galvanized Iron	\$20.00
Cast Iron	25.00

For Larger Sizes; Prices on Request.



## Statement by Patentee

My original idea was to invent a device for getting rid of a number of ponds on my farm, in which the water stood until the crops were partially or entirely destroyed. Of course the lands were properly tiled, but it took too long for the water to get down to the tile. My drains worked so well, and everyone who saw the results of their operation praised them so highly, that I applied for a patent, which was readily granted. On one 240-acre field I have ten of these drains, and I can now raise alfalfa on every foot of the field. Before the drains were put in there were between fifteen and twenty acres in this field where part or all of the crop would be drowned out almost every year. I also have a private road one mile long through my farm. In this road there were three places where water stood after every heavy rain and which rendered the road impassable because of resulting mud holes. I installed three of my drains at proper points along this road, and the mud holes are gone for good. The Commissioner of Highways of Funks Grove Township, McLean County, Illinois, has put in a large number of these drains with wonderful success in every instance.

LAWRENCE P. FUNK, Patentee



MADE AND SOLD BY

**Funk's Field and Road Drain Co.**

1300 W. Washington St.

**BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

**BETTER BE SAFE THAN SORRY.**

**ORDER NOW**



Using rotary hoe—this valuable implement may be used on soy beans until they are eight inches high. A spike tooth harrow may be used in place of rotary hoe until beans are four inches high. We recommend at least two harrowings.

Seeding soy beans solid with drill six or seven inches apart using at least one and one-half bushels seed per acre is a common practice.

A beet cultivator can be used to good advantage in cultivating Soy Beans as shown in above picture. There is also a beet drill used in conjunction with this cultivator which drops four rows at a time and a cultivator cultivates four. They are proving to be very successful tools for cultivation of Soy Beans. Soy Beans may be planted in rows two or three feet apart with corn planter or drill by stopping some of the holes, using from 45 to 60 pounds of



seed per acre. Cultivating may be done with rotary hoe or spike tooth harrow or weeder. By having them in rows permits getting in at any time with corn cultivator and cleaning them up, which practically insures a crop.

*Your seed were all O. K. I secured a good stand of Soys when so many others around me failed.—Ernest Wynn, R. R. 1, Danville, Ill.*

*We were well pleased with the seed we purchased from you last year. We purchased Soy Beans and we think practically every bean grew.—Brandes Bros., R. R. 1, Manville, Ill.*

*I received my hay mixture Soy Beans and got a perfect stand, had a wonderful crop.—Jeff Booth, Pearl, Ill.*

*The beans I purchased of you last year made a splendid crop. I think every one of them grew.—Chas. A. Gale, DeWitt County, Weldon, Ill.*

*I purchased five bushels of Soy Beans for hay in May, 1926, of your company, which done fine.—C. E. Young, Holder, Ill.*

*I bought Wilson Hay Beans from you last year and every seed came up. I was well pleased. They were the best in the country.—Steve Mitchell, Litchfield, Ill.*

*I received several bushels of Soy Beans from you last year and was well pleased with the quality and germination. I recommended Funk's to my friends for reliable seeds at reasonable prices. I received a good stand of sweet clover with the seed I purchased of you last spring.—H. M. Muntz, White Hall, Ill.*



**Names of Your Farmer Friends for Our Mailing List:**

**NAME**

**ADDRESS**

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# Soy Beans

## The Greatest Soil Builder and Cash Grain Crop of the Present Day

During the past ten years the acreage of soy beans has increased in the State of Illinois from approximately 10,000 to nearly 1,000,000 acres. It is hard to find a community today where they are not being grown. The big question in the minds of a lot of farmers today is why certain communities and certain farmers are able to grow beans so much more successfully than others. There are two main reasons for this situation—First: Only a small percentage of farmers give sufficient attention to the preparation of their seed bed in the spring. It is absolutely necessary to disk and harrow land on which we expect to raise soy beans at least twice or three times. Second: Weeds have been the cause of more crop failures in soy beans than any other single factor. You cannot raise a crop of soy beans and a crop of weeds at the same time any more than you can raise a good crop of corn and weeds. We speak from experience because we are producing hundreds of acres of soy beans on the Funk Farms.

### INOCULATE—Read Page 4

### Varieties

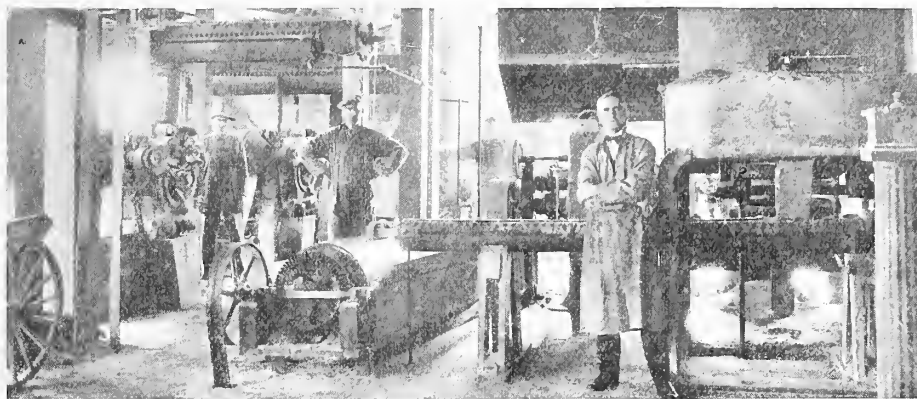
**MANCHU**—For general purposes comes first. Ninety percent of the beans that come to us for milling or seed are of this variety.

**A. K.'s**—Very good general purpose bean—seldom disappoints the grower.

**MIDWEST**—One of the best yellow varieties for hay purposes, as well as planting in corn for hogging down.

**VIRGINIA AND ILLINOIS 1319**—Especially adapted to the thin types of soil. Wonderful for hay.

**EBONY, WILSON, SABLE**—The favorite black varieties for hay.

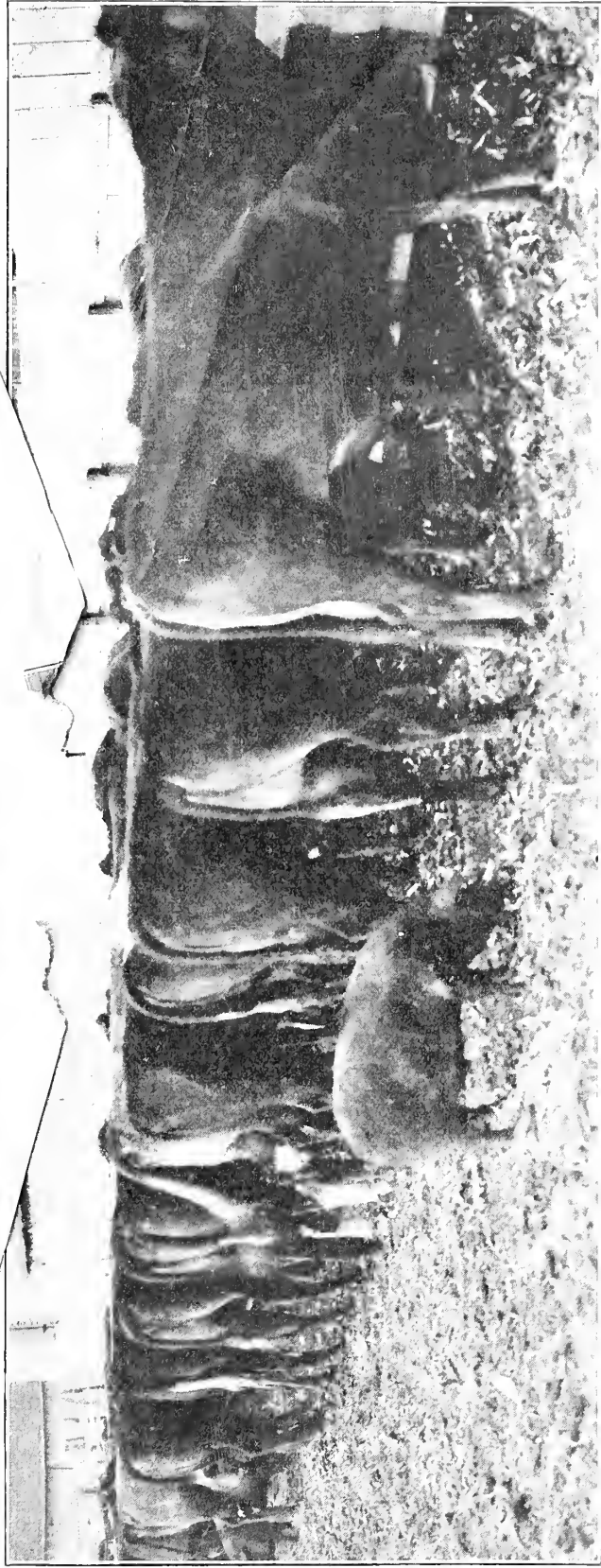


A PARTIAL VIEW OF OUR SOY BEAN CRUSHING PLANT

## Soy Bean Hay Mixture

To realize the value of this crop it must be grown and fed. Many of our customers say it has no equal, all points considered. Our mixture contains the most desirable varieties of hay beans, the early maturing varieties furnishing grain in the hay and the matured plants help to cure the hay crop. The mixed varieties make them adaptable to many different soils, conditions, and locations. We select our best grade of high germinating beans for this mixture and if you will give them a chance, you will find it a 100% sure hay crop that your

stock will thank you for—not in words, but in dollars and cents. Three or four tons an acre is a common yield and can be grown on soil so thin that other hay crops would be a failure. With the high price of clover, it surely would be economy to plant some of the acreage with Soy Bean Hay Mixture and assure yourself of some hay of highest value. We recommend seeding at the rate of a bushel and a half per acre, planting solid with wheat drill and cultivating with spike tooth harrow or rotary hoe. Order early to insure getting your supply.



**\$27,000 Worth**

of

**Hogs and Cattle**

ON THIS McLEAN COUNTY FARM BEING FED

**Funk's Soy Bean Meal**

AND HIGH OIL AND PROTEIN UTILITY TYPE CORN

GROWN FROM

**Funk's Yellow Dent**

**176A**

**DISEASE-FREE SEED**

**FUNK BROS. SEED CO.**  
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

1c Paid  
Bloomington, Ill.  
Permit No. 3

From \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,  
Horticultural and Pomological Investigations.

8-3391